
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM PERMIT

PRIORITIZED CATEGORICAL INVENTORIES OF REACHES FOR TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will receive public comments on the Prioritized Categorical Inventories of Reaches (Prioritized Inventories) subject to Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation, as required by the Statewide Storm Water Permit for the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Order 2012-0011-DWQ.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Storm water runoff from Caltrans' Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) is regulated under the above noted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the State Water Board under authority delegated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The State Water Board adopted an order amending Caltrans' NPDES permit on May 20, 2014 (Order WQ 2014-0077-DWQ). The amended permit requires Caltrans to comply with all adopted TMDLs for which it has been assigned a waste load allocation, or which specify Caltrans as a responsible party. Section I.A.4. of Attachment IV in the amended permit requires Caltrans to submit the Prioritized Inventories, which must include an identification and ranking of reaches where Caltrans' discharges contribute to impairments addressed by TMDLs. Section I.A.4 of Attachment IV also requires that the State Water Board provide a 30-day public comment period on the Prioritized Inventories submission.

Caltrans is subject to over 80 TMDLs. To achieve the highest water quality benefit as feasible in the 5-year permit term, Caltrans is required to address discharges with the greatest impact on water quality first. Implementation projects will be selected on an annual basis from the highest priority reaches in the Prioritized Inventories.

Public comments in response to this Notice must be limited to the subject matter in the posted Prioritized Inventories. Public comments outside the scope of the Prioritized Inventories will not be considered in this matter. Following consideration of public comments, Caltrans and the State and Regional Water Boards will collaborate to develop a final prioritization to be approved by the State Water Board Executive Director.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Order amending the 2012 NPDES Permit, Order 2014-0077-DWQ, is located at the following link:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0077_dwq.pdf

The amended NPDES Permit, Order 2012-0011-DWQ, is located at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2012/wqo2012_0011_dwq.pdf

The Prioritized Inventories available for public comments are located at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/caltrans/reach_prioritization_101314.pdf

The inventory of water body reaches are categorized by pollutant as described in Attachment IV of the amended NPDES Permit.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Interested persons are encouraged to submit their written comments electronically. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on November 26, 2014** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in PDF text format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate the subject line: **"Comment Letter – Caltrans Prioritized Inventories."**


Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about this notice may be directed to Mr. Walt Shannon, Chief of the Municipal Storm Water Unit at (916) 341-5497 (walt.shannon@waterboards.ca.gov), or to Mr. Jaime Favila at (916) 341-5482 (jaime.favila@waterboards.ca.gov).

October 24, 2014

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board